

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-02 H-01 SY-04 PA-01

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

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O R 130840Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1950

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS YO (BENTLEY, GLORIA LIND AND WATERMAN, ANN)

SUBJECT: DETAINED AMCITS RELEASED AND EXPELLED

REF: BELGRADE 0634

1. AT 2100 HRS LOCAL FEBRUARY 12, MRS. BENTLEY TELEPHONED TO INFORM CONSUL THAT AFTER LONG SESSION BEFORE INVESTIGATING JUDGE, NOVID SAD POLICE HAD RETURNED PASSPORTS AND ORDERED HER AND MISS WATERMAN TO LEAVE YUGOSLAVIA WITHIN 24 HOURS. BOTH ARE BANISHED FOR FIVE YEARS.

2. FULLY IMPRESSED WITH THE SERIOUSNESS OF CHARGES THEY FACED, MRS. BENTLEY GREATLY RELIEVED THAT CHARGES WOULD NOT BE FILED. SHE DESCRIBED THE CONDUCT OF THE YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES THROUGHOUT THE ORDEAL AS TREMENDOUSLY COURTEOUS AND CONSIDERATE, AND SHE AND MISS WATERMAN WERE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR OUR EFFORTS IN THEIR BEHALF. WHILE SADDENED THAT SHE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN SOON TO YUGOSLAVIA SHE UNDERSTANDS THAT EXPULSION AND BANISHMENT WERE THE MOST THEY COULD HOPE FOR.

3. THEY PLAN DEPART NOVI SAD AT DAYBREAK FEB 13 BOUND FOR ITALIAN BORDER, AND PROMISED TO CALL EMBASSY AS SOON AS THEY ARE

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OUT OF YUGOSLAVIA. DEPARTMENT WILL BE NOTIFIED AFTER HER CALL.

4. MRS. BENTLEY EXPRESSED OUTRAGE AT THE COMPROMISING POSITION
IN WHICH DRAGISA KASIKOVIC PUT HER AND
MISS WATERMAN, AND
SHE INTENDS TO TAKE LEGAL OR OTHER ACTION AGAINST HIM UPON
RETURN TO THE STATES.

5. COMMENT: PRESUMING THAT MRS. BENTLEY AND MISS WATERMAN
WILL CLEAR BORDER WITHOUT MISHAP, EMBASSY PLEASED WITH
OUTCOME WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN MUCH WORSE. SINCE GOY
CONSIDERS CONTINUING EMIGRE PROBLEM TO BE ONLY DARK CLOUD IN
BILATERAL RELATIONS, IT SOMEWHAT SURPRISING THEY DID NOT TAKE
THIS OCCASION TO GET AT KASIKOVIC INDIRECTLY, AND THEREFORE
ESPECIALLY GRATIFYING THAT FSFA OFFICIALS WERE QUICK, SYMPATHETIC
AND EFFECTIVE IN RESPONDNG TO OUR REPRESENTATIONS. END COMMENT.
TOON

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